

## IRON SHARPENETH IRON

Prov 27:17

3/18/08

1. The bond between God's men must be strong. It must be able to withstand the trials. **Proverbs 17:17** A friend loveth at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.
2. It's not about who has the most friends, but it is the quality of the friends we have. **Proverbs 18:24** A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother.
3. Friendship should withstand the test of time. **Proverbs 27:10** Thine own friend, and thy father's friend, forsake not; neither go into thy brother's house in the day of thy calamity: for better is a neighbour that is near than a brother far off.
4. Strong friendship is profitable. **Ecclesiastes 4:9-10** Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up.
5. Christ set the example for us. **John 15:13-15** Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you. Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you.

### EXAMPLES:

1. David and Jonathan. **1 Samuel 18:1** And it came to pass, when he had made an end of speaking unto Saul, that the soul of Jonathan was knit with the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul.
2. Paul and Titus. **2 Corinthians 2:13** I had no rest in my spirit, because I found not Titus my brother: but taking my leave of them, I went from thence into Macedonia.
3. Elisha and Elijah. **2 Kings 2:2** And Elijah said unto Elisha, Tarry here, I pray thee; for the LORD hath sent me to Bethel. And Elisha said unto him, As the LORD liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee. So they went down to Bethel.
4. Jesus

### AMONG BELIEVERS:

1. **Psalms 119:63** I am a companion of all them that fear thee, and of them that keep thy precepts.
2. **Malachi 3:16** Then they that feared the LORD spake often one to another: and the LORD hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the LORD, and that thought upon his name.
3. **Acts 2:42** And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

## Olde Tyme Baptist Church

4. Philippians 1:1-6 Paul and Timotheus, the servants of Jesus Christ, to all the saints in Christ Jesus which are at Philippi, with the bishops and deacons: Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, Always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy, For your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now; Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:
5. 1 John 1:7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

### **GOD IS OUR STANDARD:**

1. Joshua 1:5 There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.
2. Isaiah 54:10 For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed; but my kindness shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of my peace be removed, saith the LORD that hath mercy on thee.
3. John 14:17-18 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.
4. Hebrews 13:5-6 Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.

Are you iron? Or are you a piece of fuzzy cloth? Will you make your friend a better man? Let's make that commitment today.